

Message Text

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ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 SCA-01 DHA-02 L-03 H-02 SY-05

SS-15 NSC-05 FBIE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

PRS-01 USIA-06 /058 W

----- 122982

R 151307Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7087

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUENOS AIRES 5980

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, PFOR, AR

SUBJECT: ARGENTINE RESPONSE TO US PROTEST IN WEEKS' CASE

REF: BUENOS AIRES 5218

1. REFTEL TRANSMITTED THE TEXT OF THE EMBASSY'S NOTE 228 OF AUGUST 9, 1976 PROTESTING LACK OF NOTIFICATION AND DENIAL OF CONSULAR ACCESS IN THE CASE OF THE ARREST OF FATHER JAMES MARTIN WEEKS. ON SEPT 13, 1976 THE FOREIGN OFFICE REQUESTED THAT THE AMBASSADOR CALL TO RECEIVE A COPY OF THE MINISTRY'S RESPONSE. AS THE TIME SPECIFIED WAS INCONVENIENT, THE DCM CALLED TO RECEIVE THE NOTE FROM THE MINISTRY'S COORDINATOR OF FOREIGN POLICY (A NEW POSITION IN THE UNDER SECRETARY'S OFFICE).

2. THE DCM RECEIVED AND READ THE NOTE AND COMMENTED THAT, GIVEN THE SPECIFICALLY LEGAL NATURE OF ITS CONTENT, HE WAS NOT COMPETENT TO COMMENT ON IT. HE OBSERVED THAT, ON THE BASIS OF HIS INSTRUCTIONS, IT WOULD APPEAR THAT THERE IS A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE US AND ARGENTINE INTERPRETATION OF ARTICLE 36 OF THE VIENNA CONVENTION. HE FURTHER OBSERVED THAT NOTIFICATION TO CONSUL OF ARRESTS OF HIS NATIONALS IS A GENERALLY ACCEPTED PRACTICE CONTAINED IN MOST OF THE UNITED STATES CONSULAR BILATERALS.

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3. THE MINISTRY OFFICIALS BY THEIR COMMENTS CLEARLY WISHED TO

CONSIDER THE MATTER CLOSED, AS A FRUITLESS PROLEMIC ABOUT LEGAL

NICETIES. THE DCM RESPONDED THAT HE BELIEVED THAT DIFFERENCES
OF INTERPRETATION SHOULD BE CLEARLY IDENTIFIED, BUT
THAT THE US INTERPRETATION OF THE POINTS RAISED IN THE MINISTRY'S
NOTE WOULD HAVE TO COME FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

4. SINCE THE FOREIGN OFFICE STATED THAT THE IDENTICAL TEXT WAS
BEING DELIVERED TO DEPT TODAY, TEXT OF MINISTRY'S UNNUMBERED NOTE
OF SEPT 14 IS BEING TRANSMITTED BY AIR POUCH TO ARA/ECA.

5. THE EMBASSY AWAITS THE DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS ON THE
ARGENTINE NOTE WITH INTEREST.
HILL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CLERGYMEN, ARRESTS, DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BUENOS05980
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760348-0903
From: BUENOS AIRES
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760960/aaaabyqf.tel
Line Count: 75
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SCS
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 BUENOS AIRES 5218
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 JUL 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <27 JUL 2004 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ARGENTINE RESPONSE TO US PROTEST IN WEEKS' CASE
TAGS: CASC, PFOR, AR, US, (WEEKS, JAMES MARTIN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006